

SOME SOURCES OF ORNITHOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND WHAT THEY TELL.

AMOS W. BUTLER, Indianapolis.

There are three collections in Cincinnati that are of interest to Indiana ornithologists, as well as to those interested in other branches of science. Each has an interesting history and an extensive scientific library. These three are the collections of Mr. Charles Dury, the Cincinnati Society of Natural History and the Cuvier Club, now the Cuvier Press Club.

Mr. Dury has been a collector and student for more than 60 years. He has preserved a large number of birds, some of them from Indiana, that have become rare or are now not found within the limits of our state.

The Cuvier Club was originally composed of an enthusiastic group of sportsmen who made trips to well-known hunting grounds. Two of their favorite localities in Indiana were the Kankakee Valley and White County. To these, 50 or more years ago, they went regularly. Whenever they found rare specimens to add to their collection they had them mounted. That work was done by Mr. Dury, who was an excellent taxidermist.

The Cincinnati Society of Natural History was at its best 40 to 50 years ago and its collections include many interesting specimens from the Ohio River region and along the Ohio-Indiana state line, besides some from within the limits of our state. The most important contribution to its ornithological material is the collection of Dr. Frank W. Langdon, one of the early students of birds in the vicinity of Cincinnati.

Recently I spent two days in Cincinnati and had the opportunity of looking through those collections with Mr. Dury. From them I made many notes, to some of which I herein refer. I have prepared these records because they should be printed and preserved.

Doubtless there are other specimens in these collections of special interest to Indiana students of birds that would be disclosed by a more extensive search.

SOME BIRDS IN CHARLES DURY'S COLLECTION.

Kirtland's Warbler. *Dendroica kirtlandi* (Baird). Male. May 4, 1872; Avondale, Hamilton County, Ohio. Charles Dury, collector. "Two birds seen; thicket of low bushes." This is one of the early records of this rare and interesting bird which has more recently been taken in Indiana.

Prothonotary Warbler. *Protonotaria citrea* (Bodd.). English Lake, Ind., July 28, 1891, "Swamp." R. Hazen, collector. Breeding abundantly.

dantly at English Lake in woodpecker holes in willow trees. Birds had an appreciation of beauty. They used bright colored feathers of the wood duck in their nests. (Dury.) There are four other specimens of this warbler in this collection from the same person on the same trip.

White-winged Crossbill. *Loxia leucoptera* Gmel. One specimen. Michigan City, Indiana, March 28, 1883; J. W. Byrkit. There are two specimens of this species in the Cuvier Club collection from same person, same place and date, donated by Charles Dury.

American Crossbill. *Loxia curvirostra minor* (Brehm). Two specimens. Michigan City, Indiana, March 28, 1883, J. W. Byrkit. There is a specimen in Cuvier Club from Mr. Byrkit taken at the same time.

Both species of Crossbills were found in great numbers at Michigan City, Indiana, in the spring of 1883. The latter was much the more common. Many specimens were sent by Mr. Byrkit to Mr. Dury, who prepared them and supplied the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, the Cuvier Club and Dr. Frank W. Langdon with specimens. The same year Redpolls and Pine Siskins were common there.

Baird's Sandpiper. *Pisobia bairdi* (Coues). Female. Vicinity of Cincinnati, mouth of Little Miami River (Dury), October 27, 1878.

Black-bellied Plover. *Squatarola squatarola* (L.). Male. Hamilton County, Ohio, September 21, 1879. Killed near mouth of Little Miami River by Charles Dury. In Mr. Dury's collection.

Wilson's Phalarope. *Phalaropus tricolor* Vieill. Male. No. 776. Lake County, Indiana, May 23, 1871. "Not abundant." C. E. Aiken. A specimen, female, in the Cuvier Club Collection, No. 1288, Kouts, Indiana, April 30, 1890. J. W. Gano.

Eskimo Curlew. *Numenius borealis* (Forst.). March 15, 1879. Indiana. Mr. Dury says: "A party of Cincinnati shooters brought it back from near Chalmers, Indiana. It was tied in a bunch of Wilson's Snipe. I recognized it and mounted it." There are two specimens, Nos. 346 and 347, in the collection of the Cuvier Club, labeled "Indiana."

Evening Grosbeak. *Hesperiphona vespertina* (W. Coop.). Male. March 6, 1911, Glendale, Hamilton County, Ohio. Mr. Dury says: "A flock of 22 came in March, 1911, and stayed until early summer. They remained in one place until breeding time and suddenly left. Only about eight specimens were taken." He has two other specimens from the same flock, a male and female; from C. Allen, Hamilton County, Ohio, June 8, 1911.

CUVIER CLUB.

Wild Pigeon. *Ectopistes migratorius* (L.). Male. Indiana. From Charles Dury, February, 1879 (No. 127). Mr. Dury has two in his collection, a male and a female, both from Avondale, Ohio, March 7, 1878. "Birds very abundant in spring and fall. Shot in beech woods on Mitchell Avenue." Mr. Dury says: "Wild Pigeons nested once in scattered pairs in tall trees in Estes Woods five miles from Avondale, Hamilton County, Ohio. I saw the young birds, which were scarcely able to fly in August in the early '70's."

Snowy Owl. *Nyctea nyctea* (L.). Female. (No. 242.) English Lake, Indiana, 1877, L. A. Harris.

Double-crested Cormorant. *P. auritus auritus* (Sw.). Male. English Lake, Indiana. J. W. Beezley.

Snow Goose. *Chen hyperborea nivalis* (Forst.). Juv. Indiana near Chalmers.

Trumpeter Swan. *Olor buccinator* (Rich.). Taken 12 miles below Cincinnati on the Ohio River, in December, 1876. Three seen. Max Wocher.

Long-billed Curlew. *Numenius americanus* Wils. Male. A specimen in the collection from Indiana, marked English Lake. Cuvier Club 351.

Marbled Godwit. *Limosa fedoa* (L.). Four specimens marked "Indiana." Mr. Dury says it was formerly abundant at Chalmers.

Redbreasted Snipe or Long-billed Dowitcher. *Macrorhamphus scalopaceus* (Say). Female. April 30, 1890, Kouts, Indiana, No. 1287. J. W. Gano. There are two other specimens of this species in the collection marked "Indiana."

Upland Plover or Bartramian Sandpiper. *Bartramia longicauda* (Bechst.). The collection contains three Upland Plover marked "Indiana." Mr. Dury understands they were taken near Chalmers. He has in his collection skins and eggs of this species taken at that place.

American Avocet. *Recurvirostra americana* Gmel. No. 374—Calumet (River?), Illinois.

Swallow-tail Kite. *Elanoides forficatus* (L.). Male. Price Hill, Hamilton, County, Ohio.

Red-throated Loon. *Gavia stellata* (Pont.). Mouth Little Miami River (Hamilton County, Ohio). No. 1337. Cuvier Club.

Horned Grebe. *C. auritus* L. Two specimens, 28 and 29, Cuvier Club. English Lake (Indiana). J. W. Beezley.

American Golden Plover. *C. dominicus* Müll. Three specimens (399, 400, 401), two of them nearly full plumaged. Cuvier Club. "Indiana." Beezley and Carlisle.

Blue Goose. *Chen caerulescens* (Linn.). "Indiana." J. W. Beezley. Cuvier Club, 299.

Sandhill Crane. *Grus mexicana* (Müll.). Male. Indiana. L. A. Harris. Cuvier Club, 438.

White Pelican. *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* Gmel. Sternum. Aurora, Indiana. About September 20, 1877. J. W. S. (horten). Dr. F. W. Langdon collection. Possibly Mr. Shorten, who was a well-known taxidermist, mounted the bird for some customer and it is still preserved.

Caspian Tern. *Sterna caspia* Pallas. While it has been reported in Indiana and verified by specimens from the vicinity of Lake Michigan, one of which I have, Millers, Ind., September 27, 1898, F. M. Woodruff—records from the interior of the states between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River, are of interest. There are two of these birds in the Cuvier Collection; 113, female, Ross Lake, Ohio, October

9, 1883, from Mr. Rosa; 114, Little Miami River, Hamilton County, Ohio, October 16, 1883. A. Starbuck. Cuvier Club.

Franklin's Gull. *Larus franklini* Sw. and Rich. I add here a recent note from Pierce Brodkorb, Chicago, Illinois: "In the collection of Mr. J. Grafton Parker, Jr., now deposited in the Field Museum (Chicago) is a female Franklin's Gull, taken at Liverpool, Indiana, May 3, 1898." So far as I can recall this is the first record for Indiana verified by a specimen.